GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2775
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2003
DECLINE IN PEPPER OUTPUT
RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether pepper output has decreased recently;

(b) whether pepper import from Vietnam and Sri Lanka has increased; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to promote the export of pepper?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): Pepper production in India during the last 3 years is as follows:

Year	Quantity (tonnes)
2000-01	79000
2001-02	80000
2002-03	62000

Source: Spices Board

(b): The import of pepper from Vietnam and Sri Lanka in last 3 years is as follows:

Quantity (Tonnes)

Year	Vietnam	Sri Lanka
2000-01	667	1759
2001-02	2658	1241
2002-03	7428	8374

Source: Spices Board

(c): The major steps taken by the Spices Board to promote export of pepper are:

? Post harvest improvement through training and infrastructure development
? Support for organic farming
? Trade promotion through participation in international food fairs, exhibitions, deputation of business delegations, etc.

? Encouragement in value addition

? Support for:

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- Upgradation of technology for processing
- Setting up/upgradation of in-house laboratories in exporters` premises

? Award of Spice House Certificate & Indian Spices Logo for popularizing Good Manufacturing Practice/Good Hygienic Practices.